

Message Text

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ACTION ACDA-10

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FM USMISSION NATO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4708
SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
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USDEL MBFR VIENNA IMMEDIATE
USNMR SHAPE BE
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

S E C R E T SECTION 01 OF 03 NATO 06547

E.O.11652: GDS
TAGS: PARM, NATO
SUBJECT: MBFR: DATA EXCHANGE: SPC MEETING JULY 7
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REF: (A) NATO 6310 (DTG 011237Z JUL 77), (B) MBFR VIENNA
373 (DTG 061800Z JUL 77), (C) MBFR VIENNA 365 (DTG 040956Z
JUL 77), (D) STATE 157062 (DTG 062317Z JUL 77), (E) NATO
6533 (DTG 071315Z JUL 77)

SUMMARY: FRG VIRTUALLY ABANDONED STEP-BY-STEP APPROACH ON
EXCHANGE OF GROUND FORCE DATA AT JULY 7 SPC MEETING. FRG
PROPOSED PRESENTATION OF DATA ON RECIPROCAL AND "PRO-
GRESSIVE" BASIS, BUT WITH "PROGRESSIVE" REFERRING TO GROUND
MANPOWER AS A FIRST STEP AND AIR MANPOWER AS A SECOND STEP.
FRG PROPOSED PROVIDING THE DATA ON INTERNATIONAL STAFFS AND
OTHER PERSONNEL "AFTER OR PARALLEL TO" TABLING THE OTHER
GROUND DATA BUT AGREED TO A FOOTNOTE DEFINING "PARALLEL" AS
MEANING THAT IF THE EAST INSISTS, ALL THE WESTERN GROUND
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MANPOWER DATA SHOULD BE TABLED AT THE SAME TIME BUT ON
SEPARATE PIECES OF PAPER. FRG AGREED TO BEGIN THE SUB-PARA
ON DIVISIONS BY "AT AN APPROPRIATE TIME," AND TO SHIFT IT
TO THE END OF THE SECTION OF THE GUIDANCE ON GROUND MANPOWER
FRG APPEARED READY TO CONSIDER TREATING THE INDEPENDENT
DIVISIONS IN THIS SHIFTED PARA ON DIVISIONS, GOVERNED BY "AT
AN APPROPRIATE TIME". THE FRG MOVES NOW MAKE IT CONCEIVABLE

THAT SPC CAN COMPLETE WORK ON THE DRAFT GUIDANCE NEXT WEEK AT ITS MONDAY MEETING, OR AT ITS THURSDAY MEETING AT THE LATEST, WITH NAC APPROVAL BY SILENCE PROCEDURE SHORTLY THEREAFTER. FULL TEXT OF REVISED DRAFT GUIDANCE WILL FOLLOW. ACTION REQUESTED: SEE PARA 12 BELOW. END SUMMARY.

1. FRG REP (CITRON) STATED THAT, ASSUMING AGREEMENT AUTHORIZING THE AHG TO DRAW ON THE INTERNAL ALLIANCE POSITION ON NATIONAL REDUCTION COMMITMENTS, THE FRG WAS PREPARED TO "THROW OUT" THE STEP-BY-STEP APPROACH, AND HAVE ESSENTIALLY ONLY TWO STEPS, ONE ON GROUND MANPOWER AND ONE ON AIR MANPOWER. THE SECOND SENTENCE OF PARA 1 OF THE DRAFT GUIDANCE (REF A) WOULD BE REVISED TO READ AS FOLLOWS: "BOTH SIDES, AGREEING THAT THE IMMEDIATE PURPOSE OF A FURTHER EXCHANGE OF DATA ON THEIR FORCES IS TO CLARIFY THE EXISTING DISCREPANCIES IN THE DATA ALREADY AVAILABLE, WILL PRESENT ON A RECIPROCAL AND PROGRESSIVE BASIS ADDITIONAL DATA ON FIRST, GROUND FORCE MANPOWER AND AS A SECOND STEP AIR FORCE MANPOWER. THEY WILL IN PARTICULAR:". FRG COULD AGREE TO BEGIN PARA 1(C) OF THE DRAFT GUIDANCE BY: "AT AN APPROPRIATE TIME". THE FIRST SENTENCE OF PARA 1(D) OF THE DRAFT GUIDANCE WOULD BE REVISED TO READ: "AFTER OR PARALLEL TO TABLIN THE INFORMATION OUTLINED IN (A) AND (B), PROVIDE IN A SEPARATE PAPER FIGURES . . ." HE EXPLAINED THAT BY "PARALLEL" WAS MEANT THAT IF THE AHG CONSIDERED IT NECESSARY, ALL THE GROUND FORCE DATA COULD BE TABLED AT ONE

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TIME, ON SEPARATE PIECES OF PAPER. THE FRG WAS WILLING TO SPELL OUT IN THE GUIDANCE WHAT WAS MEANT BY "PARALLEL".

2. BELGIAN REP (CROLLEN) PROPOSED THE FOLLOWING FOOTNOTE TO "PARALLEL": "IF THE EAST INSISTS, WESTERN DATA IN (A), (B) AND (D) MAY BE TABLED AT THE SAME TIME BUT IN SEPARATE PAPERS." US REP (MOORE) SUGGESTED THAT SUCH A FOOTNOTE SAY "SHOULD BE TABLED" INSTEAD OF "MAY BE TABLED." SPC, INCLUDING FRG REP, AGREED AD REFERENDUM TO THIS FOOTNOTE. FRG REP AGREED TO DROP "IN A SEPARATE PAPER" FROM MAIN TEXT IN VIEW OF ITS INCLUSION IN THE FOOTNOTE.

3. COMMENT: IN VIEW OF FRG WILLINGNESS TO DEFINE "PARALLEL" ALONG THESE LINES, WHICH FRG REP EXPLAINED TO US PRIOR TO THE MEETING, WE DID NOT REQUEST THAT IN THE FIRST PART OF PARA 1 "PROGRESSIVE" BE CHANGED TO "CONSECUTIVE," WITH CONSECUTIVE BEING DEFINED, AS SUGGESTED IN REF B. IN THE ACTUAL LANGUAGE SUGGESTED BY THE FRG, "PROGRESSIVE" REFERS TO FIRST GROUND MANPOWER AND SECOND TO AIR MANPOWER, A TWO-STEP APPROACH. THE DEFINITION OF "PARALLEL" TO WHICH THE FRG CAN AGREE WOULD GIVE THE AHG MORE FLEXIBILITY THAN THE SUGGESTED DEFINITION OF "CONSECUTIVE" IN REF B, SINCE

UNDER THIS DEFINITION OF "PARALLEL" THE AHG CAN PUT DOWN ALL THE GROUND DATA AT THE SAME TIME AS SOON AS THE EAST INSISTS. WE CAN STILL PROPOSE REPLACING "PROGRESSIVE" BY "CONSECUTIVE" IF WASHINGTON WISHES, EITHER BILATERALLY TO FRG DELEGATION ON FRIDAY, JULY 8, OR AT SPC MEETING MONDAY, JULY 11, BUT IN ANY EVENT IT SEEMS PREFERABLE TO DEFINE "PARALLEL" SINCE THIS IS THE WORD THE FRG IS READY TO DEFINE (AND WHICH REQUIRES DEFINING). WE ALSO WENT ALONG WITH "AT AN APPROPRIATE TIME" IN THE SUB-PARA ON DIVISIONS, IN VIEW OF ACCEPTABILITY OF THIS APPROACH TO VIENNA (REF B), RATHER THAN SUGGESTING ALTERNATE VIENNA LANGUAGE. THE

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PHRASE "AT AN APPROPRIATE TIME" WOULD NOW ALSO GOVERN THE INDEPENDENT DIVISION QUESTION (SEE BELOW). END COMMENT.

4. SPC ALSO AGREED TO REVERSE THE ORDER OF THE PRESENT PARAS (C) AND (D) SO THAT THE PARA ON DIVISIONS WOULD COME LAST IN THE SECTION ON GROUND FORCES. US, UK, AND CANADA FAVORED REMOVING FROM PARA 1A THE PHRASE "AND IN DIVISIONS OUTSIDE THESE MAJOR FORMATIONS," AND PUTTING THE SENSE OF THIS PHRASE IN THE AMENDED FIRST SENTENCE OF THE PARA ON DIVISIONS. THE PRESENT VERSION OF THIS SENTENCE NOW READS: "AT AN APPROPRIATE TIME, PRESENT DATA DOWN TO THE LEVEL OF DIVISIONS (INCLUDING DIVISIONS NOT SUBORDINATE TO MAJOR FORMATIONS) (AND INDEPENDENT COMBAT FORMATIONS)

GIVING THE SAME INFORMATION AS FOR THE MAJOR FORMATIONS MENTIONED IN (B)." THE FIRST BRACKETED PHRASE WAS MADE BY UK REP (HOLMER), AND THE SECOND BRACKETED PHRASE WAS MADE BY MC REP (GROUP CAPTAIN SMITH). DUTCH REP (MEESMAN) HAD STRONG MISGIVINGS ABOUT SUGGESTING IN THIS GUIDANCE AN
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EXCHANGE OF DATA BELOW THE DIVISIONAL LEVEL AS SUGGESTED BY THE LATTER BRACKETED PHRASE. THE MAJORITY ALSO FAVORED DELETION OF THE BRACKETED SENTENCE IN THE PRESENT VERSION OF 1C. THE UK FOOTNOTE 2 WOULD REMAIN, WITH THE FINAL SENTENCE AMENDED TO SAY THAT IF THE EAST IS WILLING TO ACCEPT THE OTHER ELEMENTS, THE AHG NEED NOT INSIST ON THIS ELEMENT AT THIS STAGE. FRG REP THOUGHT THAT TREATING INDEPENDENT DIVISIONS IN THIS SUB-PARA MIGHT BE ACCEPTABLE, BUT HE RESERVED.

5. FRG REP SAID THAT HIS AUTHORITIES OPPOSED THE AMENDMENT WE SUGGESTED AT THE PREVIOUS MEETING TO THE FIRST TIC OF THE PRESENT PARA 1D (I.E., REPLACING IT BY "THE OVERALL FIGURE FOR THE ACTIVE DUTY MILITARY GROUND FORCE PERSONNEL OF WESTERN PARTICIPANTS ASSIGNED TO MULTILATERAL HEAD-QUARTERS"). HE STATED THAT THE FRG CONSIDERS THE ORIGINAL LANGUAGE TO BE SPECIFIC, AND IT DOES NOT MEAN THAT THIS IS A BLOC-TO-BLOC NEGOTIATION. HE AGREED TO ACCEPT THE US LANGUAGE THROUGH "ASSIGNED TO" BUT THE SENTENCE SHOULD BE COMPLETED BY "INTERNATIONAL ALLIANCE HEADQUARTERS." US REP REITERATED THAT IT WAS UNNECESSARY TO REFER TO "ALLIANCE HEADQUARTERS," AND THIS WAS A-OTHER RED FLAG IN THE WESTERN OFFER WHICH COULD DETER THE EAST FROM ACCEPTING A DATA EXCHANGE ON THIS BASIS.

6. US REP PROPOSED DELETION OF THE PRESENT VERSION OF PARA 2 (AIR MANPOWER) OF THE DRAFT GUIDANCE, AND ITS REPLACEMENT BY THE LANGUAGE IN PARA 6, REF C, WITH REMOVAL OF "INITIAL" PER PARA 3 REF D. SPC RECEIVED THIS SUGGESTION FAVORABLY, INCLUDING UK REP WHOSE AUTHORITIES ORIGINALLY HAD STRONGLY WANTED LANGUAGE PERMITTING SIMULTANEOUS EXCHANGE OF GROUND AND AIR DATA.

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7. WE REITERATED OUR DESIRE TO DELETE FROM THE SECOND TIC IN PARA 3 "EXCEPT ON AN ILLUSTRATIVE BASIS." UK REP NOTED THAT SINCE NO ONE HAD ACTUALLY SUPPORTED THIS PHRASE, HE THOUGHT HIS AUTHORITIES WOULD BE ABLE TO DROP IT.

8. RE THE DATA TO BE ANNEXED TO THE DRAFT GUIDANCE, FRG REP SAID THAT HIS AUTHORITIES THOUGHT THAT THE TABLES CIRCULATED BY MBFR STAFF GROUP AT THE PREVIOUS SPC MEETING (REF E) COULD SERVE AS A GOOD BASIS FOR THE ANNEXES TO THE DRAFT GUIDANCE. HOWEVER, THEY DID NOT WISH THE NATIONAL COMPOSITION OF INTERNATIONAL STAFF PERSONNEL TO BE IDENTIFIED IN ANY MANNER IN THE DRAFT GUIDANCE. SPC AGREED THAT THE STAFF GROUP SHOULD REISSUE THE TABLES WITHOUT THE NATIONAL COMPOSITION OF INTERNATIONAL STAFFS. THE TABLES WILL ALSO INCLUDE A SENTENCE STATING THAT THE IKHG MAY DRAW ON AC/276-D(76)6 FOR DIVISIONAL DATA.

9. COMMENT: IT NOW APPEARS CONCEIVABLE THAT THE SPC CAN CLEAN UP THE REMAINING BRACKETED LANGUAGE AT ITS MEETING ON MONDAY, JULY 11.

10. ON AIR MANPOWER, WASHINGTON WILL WISH TO DECIDE WHETHER TO LEAVE THE NEW PARA 2 OF THE DRAFT GUIDANCE UNCHANGED, OR WHETHER TO INSERT LANGUAGE ON THE PREFERRED METHOD OF DISAGGREGATING AIR MANPOWER.

11. ON THE DATA ANNEXES, AGREEMENT COULD MOST RAPIDLY BE ACHIEVED ON THE BASIS OF THE ANNEXES CIRCULATED BY MBFR STAFF GROUP WITH CHANGES DESCRIBED IN PARA 8 ABOVE. THESE ANNEXES OF COURSE ASSUME DISAGGREGATION OF AIR MANPOWER BY MAJOR FORMATION, THE APPROACH SUPPORTED BY FRG. THESE ANNEXES INCLUDE THE COMPLETE FIGURE FOR MILITARY PERSONNEL SERVING IN INTERNATIONAL STAFFS. WE BELIEVE THAT NOW THAT THE FRG HAS YEILDED ON THE STEP-BY-STEP

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APPROACH, THE FRG WILL BE EXTREMELY RELUCTANT TO REDUCE WHAT IT WILL CONSIDER ITS REMAINING "SHIELD" AGAINST NATIONAL TOTALS BY REDUCING THE FIGURE FOR MILITARY PERSONNEL SERVING IN INTERNATIONAL STAFFS (.E.G., BY A CRITERION SUCH AS COUNTING ONLY MILITARY PERSONNEL IN HEAD-QUARTERS WITH RESPONSIBILITIES BOTH WITHIN AND WITHOUT THE NGA). IF THE US WERE TO SUGGEST REDUCTION OF THE INTERNATIONAL STAFFS FIGURE AT THE MONDAY SPC MEETING, FRG REP WOULD CERTAINLY HAVE TO GO BACK TO BONN FOR INSTRUCTIONS, WHICH MIGHT BE NEGATIVE. THUS, IF THE US WISHES TO MAKE SUCH A SUGGESTION, WE STRONGLY RECOMMEND THAT WE BE AUTHORIZED TO MAKE IT BILATERALLY TO FRG DELEGATION ON FRIDAY, JULY 8. IF THE US MAKES THIS SUGGESTION EITHER BILATERALLY ON JULY 8 OR AT SPC MEETING JULY 11, IT WOULD BE USEFUL FOR US TO KNOW IF WASHINGTON WOULD WISH US TO CONTINUE MAINTAINING SUCH A POSITION AT THE SPC MEETING THURSDAY, JULY 14, IF THE FRG WERE STILL RESISTING IT BY THEN. END COMMENT.

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12. ACTION REQUESTED: WASHINGTON GUIDANCE ON THE REVISED TEXT IN LIGHT OF ABOVE DESCRIPTION AND COMMENT (FULL TEXT WILL FOLLOW SEPTEL). STREATOR

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Message Attributes

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